WEEKLY VISITOR,

OR,

LADIES' MISCELLANY.

"TO WAKE THE SOUL BY TENDER STROKES OF ART,
"TO RAISE THE GENIUS AND TO MEND THE HEART."

VOL. I.] SATURDAY, January 15, 1803. [No. 15.

SEDUCTION.

A TALE FOUNDED UPON FACT.

(Continued from p. 106.)

"WHILST this unfortunate passion was encouraged by the assistance of my servant, I received an unexpected proposal for my ill-fated child, from a young clergyman who had lately come into possession of a living, whose character was as amiable as his manners were refined. Delighted at the prospect of her forming a connection with a man so generally and deservedly esteemed, I indulged the hope that Mr. Pengrove's attentions would soon be able to excite both her gratitude and her love. Contrary, however, to my wishes and expectations, she treated him in a manner that convinced me she would never share his fate; and at length she informed him, that, by persevering in his attentions, he would only excite her unalterable hate. As I had said every thing in my power to recommend Mr. Pengrove, I attempted no farther to bias, or persuade, as I knew that the affections were not to be directed either by the council or the wishes of age.

"Though I had frequently seen Mr. Dashmore lurking about my premises, I had no idea that his object was the ruin of my child, as he was always accoutred in the dress of a sportsman, and generally invited me to share in the amusement I imagined he pursued. His game, however, proved destructive to my happiness; for my Matilda was the bird he was endeavoring to ensnare.

"I will neither wound your feelings, Sir, nor exhaust your patience, by attempting to describe the anguish of mind which both my wife and myself endured upon discovering that this too specious libertine had subverted every virtuous principle in our child. A letter was addressed to her unhappy mother, calculated only to agonize her too deeply tortured heart; for, instead of offering any apology for the disgrace of her conduct, she seemed rather inclined to glory in her shame; and concluded by desiring we would give ourselves no trouble about her, as all our enquiries would certainly prove vain.

"Though the mind of my beloved Charlotte had been superior to those misfortunes which the generality of the sex are not calculated to endure, yet this was a stroke she was not able to encounter, and she sunk under a shock which admitted of no cure. Though every enquiry was made after our ill-fated fugitive, yet, unfortunately, none were attended with success; but my beloved wife besought me, on her death-bed, to endeavor to find her out myself.

"As soon, Sir, as I had recovered from the excess of that affliction, which the loss of an object so beloved had produced, I resolved to fulfil the request she had made, and try to discover the fate of my child. As I knew that London was the resort of indiscretion and adversity, if there was any reason to be assigned why either should remain concealed, I took my place in the stage-coach about three weeks after the burial of my beloved wife. As my plan was to frequent every place of amusement where I thought my deluded girl was likely to be seen, on the night after my arrival I went to the theatre, with a heart agonized by sensations which no language can reveal. I gazed at the multitude with that eager kind of earnestness, that seemed to convey an idea to those around me, that my mind was deranged; and I found it impossible to pay the slightest attention to what was going forward on the stage. At length, after turning my eyes to every part of the theatre, they were suddenly attracted by the loud closing of one of the box doors; and I beheld my lost Matilda seating herself by the side of her seducer, accompanied by several young men of fashion, who seemed attentive to her alone.

"The elegant decorations, which had been purchased by the sacrifice of a gem far richer than any in Golconda's mines, I gazed upon with a mixture of contempt and abhorrence, which may be imagined, but cannot be described. As the play drew near a conclusion, I changed my situation, and placed my-

self near the box door; but at the same time concealed my face with a handkerchief, to prevent the possibility of my being known.

"Conceive, Sir, what must have been the anguish of a father, at thus openly witnessing the depravity of his child! yet I had resolution enough to follow her; and slipping half a guinea into the hand of the footman, eagerly demanded where his lady lived. 'Manchester-street, Sir,' said the man, in a tone of compassion, as if pitying that anguish I found it impossible to conceal: 'and if you call at No. 9, at one o'clock to-morrow, there will be no person with her who would be likely to prevent her from being seen.'

"The gratification I felt, in having thus far fulfilled my Charlotte's wishes, acted as a balm to my tortured mind; and I indulged the hope, that, by *persuasion* and *intreaty*, I might restore to virtue a still beloved child. As the time approached that was to introduce me to her, I found my agitation rapidly increase; and when I rapped at the door, I was seized with such a trepidation, that I was scarcely able to stand upon my feet. The same humane fellow who had given me the direction instantly opened the street door, and observing the emotion under which I labored, supported me into an elegant dining room, and fetching me a glass of wine, besought me to drink it, in a manner that was not easily to be withstood.

"As soon as he perceived that I was a little recovered, he informed me that his mistress had seen me the preceding night, and that she had insisted upon his telling her what had passed between us, or threatened to turn him out of his place. He then pulled a letter from his pocket; but I was so completely agitated, that it was with the utmost difficulty that I broke the seal. And this, Sir," continued he, presenting me with the letter, "will convince you that I have lost the hope of reclaiming my child."

TO MR. BUTLER.

"As neither *reproaches* nor *persuasion* can ever induce me to give up a being whom I love much dearer than life, I beg you will not endeavor to obtain an interview, which could only increase the agitation of your mind. I shall quit London at nine o'clock this morning, and it is wholly uncertain when I shall return."

"As soon as I had read this fatal proof of depravity, a sudden faintness overpowered my frame, and I fell from the chair in which I had been seated, in a state of insensibility, at my sympathizing companion's feet. At length, however, I recovered the use of my faculties, and requested a coach might be called to convey me to the inn; when, finding the stage would set out in a few minutes, I paid my little reckoning, and immediately stepped in. The anguish of my mind, and the fatigue of travelling, united to not having taken a sufficient quantity of food, brought on a sudden violence of fever, and I was obliged to be left at a public house upon the road. There I remained upwards of a fortnight, until the contents of my purse were nearly spent; for, during my illness, the unprincipled landlord had paid himself trebly for every article I had; and, upon my complaining of the imposition, he insolently desired me to quit the house.

"Though I was fully sensible of my own debility, I resolved not to stay another moment there; and accordingly began my pedestrian journey, in the hope of being soon overtaken by a stage. This hope unfortunately proved fallacious, for not a single mode of conveyance appeared: and it is to your humanity, Sir, that I owe the preservation of a life that appears to have no one blessing in reserve."

It was impossible to listen to a recital of such misfortunes with a heart unmoved by the detail, and I said every thing that sympathy could suggest to alleviate them, though I had the mortification of observing that my endeavors failed. A few days after Mr. Butler had indulged me with his history, I accompanied him to his humble, yet elegant, abode; for though the house was small, and every thing in it simple, yet it was evident that it belonged to a man of taste.

Upon taking leave of this venerable character, his expressions of gratitude went to my heart; and I would willingly have resigned half my possessions to have had the power of mitigating his grief. Suppose, said I, mentally, I was to *see Matilda*, and describe to her the acuteness of her father's distress; the latent sensations which *Nature* must have implanted might possibly soften her obdurate breast. The idea had no sooner occurred, than I resolved it should be executed; and throwing myself into my travelling chaise, I gave myself up to the gratifying sensation of fancying my embassy certainly must succeed. As I am one of those ardent characters that pursue every thing with avidity which my mind prompts me to undertake, I merely stopped for the purpose of changing horses until I arrived in Manchester-street. Some yards before the door I perceived straw had been littered, and two carriages prevented the drawing up of mine. My motions, however, were not to be impeded; and I sprung from my chariot, and knocked at No. 9. A servant instantly attended the summons, who informed me that Miss Butler could not be seen, as she was laboring under a delirious fever, and the physicians entertained little hope of her life.

Whilst the man was giving me this melancholy intelligence, my feelings were shocked by the most appalling screams; and I heard her distinctly exclaim, "Oh! I will see my father! For unless *I receive his blessing*, I can never die in peace." Without thinking it necessary to adopt ceremony upon such an occasion, I rushed by the servant, and flew up stairs; and entering the apartment from whence the voice issued, beheld a lovely young creature forcibly detained in the bed. I entered the room without any person appearing to notice the intrusion, as the attention of those who were present was occupied by the sick; and for some moments I remained in state of stupefaction, until roused to reflection by the reiteration of her screams. At one moment she implored Dashmore to shield her from her father; and at the next, forbid him to appear in her sight. Then she would reproach him for her dereliction from virtue, and beseech her parent to pardon the imperfections of his child.

"He does pardon you, my dear Miss B.," said I, affectionately pressing her fervid hand; "and has sent me to assure you of his forgiveness, and to restore your wounded mind to *peace*." "*Peace!*" she exclaimed, in a tone of agony; "*Peace* is the inhabitant of a *virtuous* breast! My crimes have chased her from this tortured bosom; and never, never can my woes find rest."

(To be concluded in our next.)

NORWEGIAN CORPS OF SKAITERS.

IT is well known that Norway is during four or five months covered with snow, which, at some distance from the sea coast, is so deep that it becomes impossible for the traveller to quit the beaten road either on horseback or on foot. Even the road itself must be new beaten after each new fall of snow; and that operation is performed by means of a machine somewhat resembling a plough, pointed before, and gradually widening behind, which, being drawn by horses, cuts its way through and levels at the same time.

Notwithstanding the difficulties which the Norwegian winters thus naturally present, the chase has ever been a favorite exercise with the inhabitants of the country, which formerly abounded with fierce animals, besides deer and smaller game. To make the most of the short days in that climate by traversing the forests with increased celerity, the Norwegian devised the use of skaits, very different however from those which we use in our more southern lands for the purpose of amusement. The Norwegian skaits are a pair of boards, about four or five inches broad, from half an inch to an inch thick, slightly hollowed in the middle underneath, to prevent unsteadiness, and to advance in a straight line. The board for the left foot is ten feet long, and the other only about six. They are both bent a little upward at the extremities, but higher before than behind. They are tied to the feet with thongs fastened in the middle, where they are left higher and thicker than in the other parts. The skait for the right foot is often underlaid with rein deer skin or seal skin, which glides very smoothly along when the skaiter moves forward in the direction agreeing with the grain of the hair, but which presents a resistance when he presses his foot in a backward direction causing the hair to bristle.

It is an ascertained fact that a good skaiter, when the snow is tolerably firm, can travel more rapidly over a level country, and continue his rapid march for a longer time, than the best horse trotting on the finest road.

If he has to descend a mountain, he moves with such impetuosity, that he is obliged to moderate his first effort in springing forward, lest he should lose his breath in the descent. He ascends more slowly, and not without some difficulty, because he is obliged to mount in a zig-zag direction. Nevertheless he reaches the submit in as short a time as would suffice for the best foot-man. And, if the snow have acquired any small degree of consistency, he never sinks into it.

Experience having proved, that in spite of the multiplied obstacles arising from the severity of the winter, Norway had been repeatedly attacked by the enemy during that season—and this mode of performing long excursions being in general use among the inhabitants—it was natural that the idea should occur of forming a military corps of skaiters.

Accordingly such a plan has been adopted; and the corps, consisting of nine hundred and sixty men, is divided into two batallions, one for the northern part of the country, the other for the southern.

Their present uniform consists of a short green jacket, a grey surtout with a yellow cape, grey pantaloons, and a black leathern cap.

Their arms are a carabine hung with a sling which passes over the shoulder, a broad cutlas, and a staff three yards and a half long, an inch and a quarter thick, having at the end an iron point, and, at some distance from the extremity, a circular piece of iron. The principal use is to check the excessive rapidity of the skaiter's motion in descending heights. On these occasions he places it between his legs, and drags it after him, or he drags it by his side. On other occasions he makes use of it to push himself forward in ascending: in short he variously employs it according to circumstances. This staff serves him also as a support for his carabine when he wishes to fire a shot; though indeed the Norwegian peasants in general shoot very well without any such aid, and seldom miss their aim.

To the exercise of skaiting, this corps unites also that of the ordinary chasseurs or light troops, of which it is to be considered as constituting a part: it performs all the same functions as they, nor differs from them except in the circumstance of marching on skaits, which gives it a great advantage over the others. The skaiters, moving with great agility, and being secured by the depth of the snow from all pursuit either by infantry or cavalry, may safely hover round a hostile army on its march, may watch all its motions, harrass and gall it on each side of the road, without incurring any danger. Even discharges of cannon would produce little effect on a number of skaiters scattered at two or three hundred yards distance from each other, and whose movements besides are so rapid, that, at the moment while the cannoniers fancy they still have them in sight, they have already vanished, to make their appearance anew when least expected.

If the enemy halt, that is the time when the skaiters enjoy their full superiority over them. Whatever precautions the hostile army may have adopted, they are momentarily exposed to the attacks of men who do not stand in need of either roads or paths, but indiscriminately traverse morasses, lakes, and rivers, provided that they only be covered with snow. Even though the ice beneath should be too weak to bear either horse or man, the skaiter is safely wafted over it by the rapidity of his motion. Indeed there is not any corps better calculated, in the winter season, for the service of reconnoitring, carrying intelligence respecting the enemy, or performing the office of couriers.

It may however be supposed that they find a difficulty in turning round, on account of the great length of their skaits: but that is not the case. The skaiter draws back his right foot to which is fastened the shorter skait, places it vertically to the left, then raises the left, and, placing it parallel to the right, he is turned. If he wishes to turn completely back, he has only to repeat the manœuvre.

In their ordinary winter exercises, the skaiters form themselves in three ranks, at eight paces distance between the ranks, and three between the files; and, unless when they designedly scatter themselves, they exactly observe those distances, that they may not impede each other in the use of their skaits.—When they have occasion to fire, the middle and rear ranks advance close to the front; each file thus forming a little body apart.

The baggage and camp-equipage of this corps is conveyed in sledges placed on skaits. A single man easily draws one of these sledges by means of a leathern thong, which passes over his right shoulder and crosses to his left side, like the sling for the carabine.

An improvement on this plan has been suggested—that of attaching to corps a few pieces of light artillery, to be drawn upon skaits in the same manner as the baggage.

PORTRAIT FROM LIFE, OF AN AMIABLE FEMALE.

HORTENSIA MILDMAY, at her first entrance into life, was one of the most beautiful and lovely of her sex. She had been well instructed in every useful art and every liberal accomplishment, under the auspices of an excellent mother; but her natural good taste and good sense led her to cultivate her mind, and improve her manners, infinitely beyond the plan of education which had been prescribed, by her own assiduity and attention. Instead of idle or pernicious novels, she read the best books in her native language; and, instead of imitating every giddy votary of fashion, and vying with her in dress and finery, she studied more what was becoming to her person, and suitable to her situation, than what others wore, or wished to obtain.

Before the bloom of youth had in the least begun to fade, or any power to please was decayed, she became a happy wife and a mother. As soon as her children were capable of receiving the first rudiments of instruction, she began to form their tender minds; and, in proportion as they grew up so as to demand more of her maternal care, she gradually withdrew from the haunts of fashion; and, centering her whole happiness in her duty, assumed, and admirably supported, the character of the matron, before numbers of her original acquaintances had learned to reflect on the purposes for which they were sent into the world.

Yet, though Hortensia discharged every duty of a wife and a mother with the most sedulous attention, and sought no other plaudits but those of a husband who appreciated her virtues as they deserved, and the gratulations of her own heart, she neither became gloomy nor censorious. Her natural vivacity was only converted into another and more honorable channel: it was employed to diffuse cheerfulness over her family, and to heighten the enjoyment of those friends with whom she still wished to remain intimate.

As her daughters arrived at maturity, she thought it was only performing a necessary part of their education, which she had constantly superintended, to introduce them in to life herself. She, therefore, once more occasionally mixed with the world; but took care, by her conduct, her dress, and her conversation, to maintain the dignity of a matron, and to show that she was neither jealous of youthful charms, nor envious of the attentions paid to superior rank or beauty. She was the guide and the director of her offspring, not their rival or jailer: she led them, indeed, into the flowery paths of innocent pleasure; but she first took care to inspire them with good principles, with just notions, and with prudent foresight, that they might not incur the danger or disgrace of deviating into error, or of being deceived by every flattering appearance.

Having performed every thing that an affectionate mother owes to her children, and seen them all creditably and agreeably settled in life, she had only her conjugal duties to attend to; and in these she is the pattern for her sex. At the age of sixty, her manners and her conversation have sufficient charms to engage the esteem and affection of strangers; and to her husband, who knows the pure source from whence all her natural or acquired accomplishments flow, she is no less dear, nor less tenderly loved, than when in the blushing bloom of youth. In a word, by wisely adapting herself to her situation, she retains, and will ever retain, the affection of her husband, the esteem of her friends, and the admiration of the world.

THE PHILOSOPHER AND THE GARDEN.

From the Persian of NISAMI.

AN Indian philosopher, who travelled like a sage (that is, on foot), to study nature, chanced one day to enter a garden. He reposed with delight in this place, which belonged to a magnificent palace, and trode with transport the precious tapestry with which the ground was adorned. There the tender button of the opening rose began to expand itself, imitating in its numerous folds the brilliant knot of a rich purple cestus. There the tulip unfolded, with pride, all the pomp of its colors, ignorant of the short duration of its frail existence. Every where the ground was enamelled with flowers, the concaves of which glistening with dew presented so many cups full of precious liquid. The sweet-briar seemed to have turned its thorns against itself; and from the trembling of its foliage, one might think the willow feared for its life.—The narcissus, reclining its head, dropped crystal tears; and the tulip, placed beneath the rose, received in its beauteous chalice the precious rubies which distilled from the perfumed bosom of the superincumbent tree. But, alas! the duration of the one is but an instant, and the other is old before the end of the day.

Happy flowers! The period of their existence is determined by the setting sun, and they bloom, without anxiety for the moment that is to succeed. The philosopher, having retired with regret from this delicious place, had occasion to return a few months after. Alas! how changed! Instead of the rose—instead of the nightingale, which lately joined to embellish this happy spot, the ear was struck with the piercing cries of the kite, and the mournful croaking of the frog.—The smiling verdure of the shrubbery, was changed into greyish gloom, and the once charming clusters of roses presented nothing but masses of pointed thorns. He cast a look of regret on the place which had so lately enchanted him, and was unable to refrain from tears as he meditated upon the short duration of existence.

"We have only a few instants to live! exclaimed he:—let us, then, endeavor to take advantage of them all to insure happiness; to effect which, there is only one mode,——by consecrating them to virtue."

ON NOVELS.

A FRENCH writer speaking of female education, says, that in the ancient system of female education, the chapter of things, not to be known was of very great extent: at present, thanks to the novels, this chapter is a blank. A young girl enters into the world with her novel in her head; she has made choice of her faults before she has any; her excuses are prepared, and only await her errors; she sees in every thing that can happen to her, only one or two pages of an adventure which she has read; and she considers the reproaches which she may sustain, as similar to those reflections which she passed over in the novels, and which she may in like manner pass over in life.

ANECDOTE OF ARRIA, WIFE OF PŒTUS.

AMONGST the number of those who have espoused the cause of Camillus, was a noble Roman of the name of Pœtus, who, upon the failure of their scheme, had fled for safety to a distance from Rome, attended by the object both of his love and tenderness.

As the crime, of which Pœtus had been guilty, was considered treasonable, the pains which were taken to discover his retreat, were such as it was not possible to elude, and at length his enemies found out his concealment.

The amiable Arria had long expected this misfortune, and had prepared her mind to support it with resignation; but when she heard the officers of justice inhumanly refuse to permit her to attend him, the horror of a separation was greater than she could sustain, and she endeavored, by tears, to move their compassion; finding, however, that all persuasions were ineffectual, she offered a large reward to the owners of a fishing boat, if they would follow the ship which conveyed her husband. The hopes of *profit* subdued the impression of *fear*, and the little vessel put to sea: happily no storm impeded its progress, and the courageous fair one arrived in safety at Rome.

The Senate were no less astonished at the strength of her resolution, than they were struck with the force of her attachment; and though they were unable to grant the life she held so dear, for her sake they resolved to protract it, and allow her the privilege of attending him in his confinement.

During that period, instead of disarming his resolution, by describing her *own miseries*, she constantly endeavored to inspire him with fortitude; and when she found that the faint hopes she had entertained that his life would be spared, could no longer with prudence be indulged, she conjured him to avoid the ignominy of a public execution, by a voluntary termination of his own existence.

Whether it was a natural fear of death, or a dread of parting with so dear an object, that rendered Pœtus deaf to her persuasions, cannot be ascertained; but, finding that all her arguments were ineffectual, she drew a dagger from her robe, and burying it in her bosom, drew it reeking from it, and presenting it to her husband, with a smile, said, tenderly, "It is not painful, my Pœtus!"

WHIMSICAL WILL OF AN OLD BACHELOR THE DAY BEFORE HIS NUPTIALS.

When I said, I would die a bachelor,
I did not think I should live till
I were marry'd.
Shakespeare.

I W. N. of D. in the county of S. bachelor, being sound both in body and mind, but apprehensive I shall shortly quit this vain and forlorn estate of celibacy; which I hope to exchange for a more comfortable and happy one, through the aid of a kind and virtuous helpmate; do make and ordain this my last will and testament, in manner and form following.

Imprimis. I give and bequeath to my good friend Mr. W. M. all my manor of *Long Delay*; consisting and being made up of the several farms and messuages called or known by the names of *Doubts, Fears, Bashfulness, Irresolution, Uncertainty, Pickleness, Obstinacy, &c. &c.* being for the most part waste and barren ground, and much overgrown with briars, thorns, and thistles; but capable, by proper management, of great cultivation and improvement.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my good friend Mr. J. A. all my dwelling house called by the name of *Vain-Hopes*, situate, lying, and being, in *High-Street*, in the town of *Castle-Building*, in the county of *Imagination*; rising to the height of seven stories; having a fair garden and a prospect *before* it, and a large number of windows in the front, but without any *outlet* behind, or any kitchens, cellars, or other conveniencies of a social nature, belonging to it; to have and to hold the said dwelling house until the day of his marriage, if he shall think proper to keep it so long.

Item. I give and bequeath to my good friend Mr. R. all my wood-land, called and known by the name of *Ambiguity*; which is well planted with *pun-trees, conundrums, quirks*, and *quibbles*; together with several impenetrable *brakes* and *thickets*, of dark, unintelligible *incomprehensibilities*.

And lastly, I give and bequeath all the rest of my bachelor's goods and effects, consisting of a large treasure of *whims, fancies, megrims, freaks, reveries, schemes, projects, designs, &c.* to my aforesaid good friend, Mr. J. A. whom I shall constitute and appoint sole executor of this my last will and testament, only desiring and requesting of him, that he writes and pronounces an epithalamium on this happy occasion; in order that this my departure into the blessed regions of matrimony, may be decently celebrated.

And as I apprehend, I shall have no more occasion for the legacies above disposed of, so it is my true intent and meaning, that my said legatees shall not consider them as favors and obligations, conferred upon them; as it is also my farther sincere will and desire, that they do not hoard them up, or continue to make a long and unprofitable use of them; but that they shall endeavor to dispose of them as soon as possible, to the end that they may be the better fitted and disposed to follow me into the happy state into which I am now about to enter.

Executed at my mansion of *Vain-Hopes* aforesaid, the 20th day of March, A. D. 1795.

Signed, sealed, and delivered
by the above written Testator, in the presence of us,
MARMADUKE MATRIMONY.
WILLIAM WEDLOCK.
FANNY FORWARD.

A chymist, who boasted of having discovered the science of making gold, applied to Leo X. for a reward. The pope gave him a large empty purse, saying, that, as he knew how to make gold, he only wanted a purse to contain it.

A servant attending his sick master, took the opportunity, in his affliction, of stealing his handkerchief; the master caught him in the fact: "I only took the handkerchief," said he, "to dry up my tears."

A woman celebrated for her intrigues, wished to disguise herself at a masquerade. She was advised to dress as a woman of virtue, for then nobody would know her.

The Visitor.

SATURDAY, January 15, 1803.

For the accommodation of literary correspondents, a box for the reception of letters is placed at the gate-way to the office of the VISITOR, No. 90, William-Street, where communications will be thankfully received.

LIST OF DEATHS IN THIS CITY,

The city clerk reports the death of 25 persons during the week ending on the 9th inst. viz. of Nervous Fever 1—Consumption 5—Worms 1—Fits 2—Decay 2—Small Pox 1—Old Age 1—Hives 1—Dropsy 1—Asthma 1—Ulcers 1—Pleurisy 1—and of diseases not mentioned 7—Of the whole number, 15 were adults, and 10 children.

Kingston, (Esopus,) Jan. 1.

It is with pleasure we inform the public that a line of stages is now completely established on the west side of Hudson River, from the city of Albany to the city of New-York.

The stage house in this town is kept by Evert Bogardus, where the stages arrive every Sunday evening.

It has long been in agitation, and we cannot but express our satisfaction that it has thus far succeeded.

If the citizens of Ulster will act with spirit on this occasion, keep the road and bridges in repair, they may have one of the best stage roads in this state. [*Gen. Ad.*]

Died, on Friday night last, at his house in Duke-street, Westminster, Dr. Arnold, after a long and painful illness. Of this event the public cannot be informed without feeling a considerable degree of regret. Few have contributed so largely to their amusement; and we know of no English composer who has composed so much and so well. The Maid of the Mill; The Agreeable Surprise; Inkle and Yarico; The Surrender of Calais; The Shipwreck; and Peeping Tom; will continue to delight as long as true harmony continues to charm. [*Lon. Star.*]

THEATRICAL REGISTER FOR 1803.

THURSDAY, Jan. 6.

WHEEL OF FORTUNE; *Cumberland.* FORTUNE'S FROLIC, *Allingham.*

Penruddock is one of Mr. Cooper's favorite characters, and one which he pourtrays with the skill of a master.

Woodville was ably supported by Mr. Fennell. It is not a part to exhibit talents.

Mr. Martin's *Henry* was correct and spirited. The feeling with which some of the speeches to *Penruddock* were given, gained its just tribute of applause.

Mrs. Jefferson was well dressed to represent the Matron, and played with propriety, but not with sufficient exertion of voice.

Emily, the charming *Emily*, fascinated every beholder. We never saw Mrs. Johnson look so well as to-night. Her dress was elegance itself; and she played with a spirit and delicate archness which we have never seen equalled. The transition from tears to laughter; and the affected apprehension of receiving a box on the ear, were inimitable points.

Mr. Jefferson's *Sir David Daw* must have pleased *Sir Fretful* himself, had he been present.

FRIDAY, JAN. 7.

RICHARD III. *Shakespeare.* MIDNIGHT HOUR; from the French by Mrs. *Inchbald.*

SATURDAY, JAN. 8.

HAMLET; *Shakespeare.* THE PRIZE; *P. Hoare.*

Of Mr. Cooper's *Hamlet* so much has been said, so much praise justly bestowed upon every particular part of his performance of the character, that we shall only express our wish that we may "see his like again." This evening was advertised as Mr. Cooper's last appearance in America.

Mrs. Hodgkinson's *Ophelia* has justly obtained a celebrity which may vie with that of Mr. Cooper's *Hamlet.*

MONDAY, JAN. 10.

BLUE BEARD; *G. Colman.* A QUARTER OF AN HOUR BEFORE DINNER; and HARLEQUIN HOSTLER; *By all concerned in the representation.*

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 12.

HYPOCRITE; *Bickerstaff.* WHEEL OF TRUTH; *James Fennell.*

The Comedy of the HYPOCRITE will not please at the present day. We saw nothing to praise in the performance but Mr. Jefferson's *Mawworm.*

THE WHEEL OF TRUTH, played for the first time, is a performance of merit, and demands our attention, as we doubt not it will attract the attention of the public.

Whimsey, an old man who has retired in affluence from the stage, has an only daughter, for whom he wishes to find an honest husband, a man who *is* what he *appears*. For this purpose, being previously gifted with the power of *hocus pocus*, he erects a wheel, the virtues of which are so extraordinary, that any person being placed therein and whirled round nine times, will come out divested of all false appearances; the *thing* he really is. *Harlequin*, (not a dumb Harlequin) is introduced to *Miss Whimsey* by her father, falls in love, and is appointed manager of the wheel, which office he fills with great ability; being the satyrist and moralist of the piece, after the manner of *Garrick's Æsop*. *Whimsey* advertises that his daughter and ten thousand dollars shall be the reward of the man who comes out of the wheel unchanged. A croud is attracted and some individuals are selected for trial. A heedless young man fond of gambling is exhibited by the wheel as a pluck'd pigeon. A *Quack Doctor* turns out an Ass; a *Beau* proves to be a Monkey; a *Critic* comes forth a Goose; and an *Usurer* is the Devil. *Harlequin* himself at length enters; the wheel sinks; he remains unchanged; and is rewarded with the hand and fortune of the lady.

Such is the whimsical fabric of this farce, which promises to be extremely popular. *Harlequin* is well imagined; and happily executed; his dialogue is as motley as his coat, being shreds and patches from *Shakespeare, Otway, Rowe, &c.* parodied with much skill and well adapted to the subject: the parody of *Shylock's* famous speech is masterly. This character would perhaps be unexceptionable, but for his impertinence and rudeness to *Mrs. Tabitha*, whose crime is—not being married. Something too much of this. The low comedy man *John*, is not so well as other parts of the piece: his Cat story is (to use his own language) *a boar* (bore.) The characters who enter the wheel are well sketched and the whole second act is a rich repast of humor, wit, and truth. The author would do well in our opinion to omit the *Quaker*. We congratulate *Mr. Fennell* on his success, a little attention to pruning will give his farce a title to rank with the first of its species.

We must reserve our remarks on the

performers, for our next: at present only this—let not the animals, whose appearance affords so much mirth as the representatives of debased humanity, be treated with inhumanity.

In the Senate of the United States, on the 30th ult. the committee appointed on the bill to carry into effect the resolution of congress for erecting a monument to the memory of general Wooster, made a report by bill, enacting that a monument should also be erected at Raleigh, North Carolina, to the memory of the late brigadier general Davidson, who died gallantly fighting for the liberty and independence of the country; and another at Sunbury, in Georgia, to the memory of the late brigadier general Scriven, who fell covered with wounds fighting for the liberties of these States.

NEW-ORLEANS.

Advices from Washington state, that the New-Orleans question has received the serious and attentive consideration of Congress.

The annexed resolutions have been adopted with respect to that subject.

We trust the measures which it appears the executive department of government is at present pursuing will effect an amicable adjustment of the affair; and successfully "assert the rights and vindicate the injuries" which the Union may have sustained by this infraction of existing treaties.

Should the pacific measures of negociation fail, we find the legislature of the Union expressing a firm and unalterable determination of maintaining, at all hazards, privileges so essential to the interests of the Western Country, and so intimately connected with the dignity and prosperity of the United States. [*M. Chron.*

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That this house receive with great sensibility, the information of a disposition in certain officers of the Spanish government at New-Orleans, to obstruct the navigation of the river Mississippi, as secured to the United States by the most solemn stipulations.

That adhering to that humane and wise policy, which ought to characterise a free people, and by which the United States have always professed to be governed; willing at the same time, to ascribe this breach of compact to the unauthorised misconduct of certain individuals, rather than to a want of good faith on the part of his Catholic Majesty; and relying with perfect confidence on the vigilance and wisdom of the executive, they will wait the issue of such measures as that department of the government shall have pursued, for asserting the rights and vindicating the injuries of the United States. Holding it to be their duty at the same time to express their unalterable determination to maintain the boundaries and the rights of navigation and commerce through the river Mississippi, as established by existing treaties.

Done in the House of Representatives, in Washington, 7th January, 1803.

MOROCCO.—[OFFICIAL.]

Extract of a letter from Consul Simpson, to Consul Gavino, dated Tangier, 27th September, 1802.

I am happy to tell you, that some matters in discussion with this country, have already been so far explained, and misconceptions on the part of this government done away, as leaves me no room to apprehend longer a necessity of having recourse to America for instructions, as every matter is in the fairest train of perfect accommodation, and I hope the gun carriages will come just in time to settle every thing, at least for some years, until they think of something else to ask for.

Extract of a letter from the Rev. Mr. Turton, dated, New-Providence, October 5, 1802.

A melancholy circumstance has lately taken place in this island. Six white men have been condemned to be hanged, for piracy. Two were actually executed; whom I attended constantly; and have reason to think they found mercy with God. The others obtained the king's pardon from the governor. Trade is very dull at this time.

A physician, observing how common it is to abuse those of his profession, added, there is nobody, however, who can complain of me. "No," answered a wag, "because you kill all those who put themselves in your hands."

HAIL WEDDED LOVE! NO LIBERTY CAN PROVE,
SO SWEET AS BONDAGE WITH THE WIFE WE LOVE.

Marriages.

On Sunday evening last, Mr. Isaac Van Duzen, jun. to Miss Mary Smith, both of this city.

At Portland, Capt. Robert Motley, to Miss Nancy Marvel.

At Paris, M. C. Talleyrand, Secretary of State, to the celebrated Madame La Grande.

Deaths.

On Saturday last, in the 61st year of her age, the widow Eleanor Polhemus, of this city.

On Wednesday morning, of a rapid decline, Mr. Nathan B. Pierpont, aged 20, son of Mr. John Pierpont, of New-Haven.

On Tuesday morning, Mrs. Susan Allman, relict of Lieut. H. Allman, late of his Majesty's 47th regiment.

At Wilmington, [N.C.] John Burke, Deputy Collector of that port.

In England, the Rev. Dr. Hunter, the translator of St. Pierre's Studies of Nature.

THEATRE.

This Evening will be presented for the last time this season,

BLUE BEARD.

To which will be added,

The Liar.

On Monday, January 17, will be presented A Comedy, called,

FIRST LOVE.

To which will be added,

The Wheel of Truth.

For the benefit of the Author.

EPIGRAM

ON A LADY WHO SPOKE WITHOUT A TONGUE.

[*Translated from the French.*]

THAT Woman speaks without a tongue,
And e'en may make a long harangue,
I readily conceive it:
But, being of a tongue possess'd,
She can in silence let it rest!—
I never can believe it.

IMPROMPTU ANSWER TO THE ABOVE.

BY A LADY.

OUR thanks, kind sir, to you belong
For Epigram so smart:
Your wit has reach'd the sex's tongue—
But ne'er can reach their heart!

You say (what we before have heard,
Full often too have read,)
That *speech* on woman was confer'd
From *favor* more than *need!*

For scarcely need *they* words to learn,
T' express the varied thought,
Whose ev'ry *look* and ev'ry turn
With *eloquence* is fraught!

When pity's soft emotions rise,
Or care the heart would break,
A *tear* the place of words supplies,
And mocks th' attempt to speak.

And when the lover suppliant kneels,
A union to beseech,
A sigh, a blush, consent reveals,
And spares the pain of speech!

To say that Conceit we despise
Our tongue we need not use;
Contempt is darted from our eyes—
This truth you'll not refuse.

Or, doubting you'd conviction have,
Your shall not warm it long;
For what the *eyes* have failed to give,
Accept now from the *tongue.*

Some people are like drums, which are not serviceable till they are beaten.

LINES

Occasioned by a Lady shedding tears at the scene in PIZARRO, *when Rolla is making his escape with Cora's child, over the bridge, amidst the fire of the soldiers.*

WHILE plaintive notes of orphan's woes
Invade my Mary's ears
Her gentle soul with pity glows,
Her glist'ning eyes with tears.

Why seeks the fair her grief to hide—
Why check the rising tear?
Can Pity be to Shame ally'd?
Has Virtue cause of fear?

Pity's the lenient balm of woe,
The cordial of th' oppress;
A debt we to misfortune owe,
The right of the distress.

The heav'nly impulse then pursue,
Nor heed the Fool's disdain,
Whose thoughtless bosom never knew
Compassion's pleasing pain.

So may those tears for foreign woe,
Or distant griefs alone,
In gen'rous pity gently flow,—
But never weep thy own.

ODE ON CONTENTMENT.

Being entirely in the modern taste, wherein every thing is described,—except the subject proposed.

WHO has not heard what few have seen—
The yellow robes of sprightly green,
Which o'er my Laura's shoulders flow,
And deck the maid from top to toe?

Her eyes like liquid flint arise,
And, lo! ye gods! how red the skies!
From cloud to cloud, from east to west,
'Tis pun and pathos; fun and jest.

Swallows twitter thro' the shade——
Poor Philander!——is he dead?
See, how winter strips the grove!——
Sighs of sympathy and love.

Ecstatic extacies and moans,
Sighs and simpers, grins and groans;
Girls of grace, and Bond Street bonnets;
Celia's waist, and Thurning sonnets.

Sound the trumpet, beat the drum;
Tweedle-dee and tweedle-dum;
Gird your armor cap-a-pee,
Tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee.

A good friend is worth a hundred more relations.

The worst wheel in the carriage always makes the most noise.

He to whom you give, writes it on sand, and he from whom you take, writes it on steel.

Soldiers die wholesale by the musket, and retail by papers.

JUST PUBLISHED

By Ming & Young,

THE

NEW-YORK POCKET ALMANAC,

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The above useful little work may be had of most of the Booksellers in this city, price 25 cents.

‡‡ A few copies will be bound in a pocket-book manner.

JOHN DOWNS,

Respectfully informs the public, that he executes Painting and Glazing with neatness and dispatch, at his shop, No. 7, Jacob-Street.

N. SMITH,

Chemical Perfumer, from London, at the New-York Hair-Powder and Perfume Manufactory, the Rose, 14 doors from the Fly-Market, up Maiden-Lane, in Liberty-Street, No. 6, New-York.

Among all the innocent, salutary, and perfectly efficacious Cosmetics of Smith's preparing, improved chemical Milk of Roses, or Beauty's Preservative, holds the most distinguished rank, and is famed at every toilet of fashion in London, and, from the great demand, will soon be so in America. That the public may no longer be imposed on by the trash under that name, Smith is determined not to sell any without his seal and name on the bottle in copperplate, warranted genuine, or taken back and the money returned. It is likewise of so innocent a nature, it might be used internally, in the most infant state, it being truly deserving of the many impartial recommendations it hourly merits from the first of families, owing to the many excellent qualities which it possesses above any thing of the kind ever discovered. No wash was ever known to purify the skin equal to this. It cleans and preserves the most delicate complexion, keeps the lustre of beauty to extreme old age, makes the sodden and brownest skin fair and white, unblemished by wrinkles, pimples, tan, morphews, and every other deformity of the skin. It is exceeding fine for gentlemen to use after shaving, as it heals and takes off all smarting of the soap, and renders the face smooth and comfortable. Sold with printed directions, 6s per bottle, small do. at 3. Ladies that take the Milk of Roses by the quart will have an abatement. Smith would just mention, that his chemical milk of roses was highly recommended by some of the gentlemen of the faculty who have taken the trouble to analize this wash, and express their wonder that a thing so innocent would have such an immediate effect upon the skin.

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